

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 098311  
ORIGIN EUR-12

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R 301223Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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DUBLIN PASS BELFAST

E.O. 11652:N.A.

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: VISIT BY NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE MOVEMENT LEADERS

REFS: A) BELFAST 118; (B) BELFAST 141

1. EUR DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY VINE MET APRIL 28 WITH  
NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE MOVEMENT LEADERS BETTY WILLIAMS  
AND NANCY MCDONALD. LEADERS WILL VISIT VARIOUS  
US CITIES TO EXPLAIN NI SITUATION, MOVEMENT'S AIMS,  
REASONS WHY AUDIENCES SHOULD SUPPORT PEACE EFFORTS AND  
END ANY AID TO MEN OF VIOLENCE.

2. WILLIAMS SAID MOVEMENT REMAINS VIGOROUS, CITING EMNIS-  
KILLEN CONFERENCE (REF A), JOB-CREATION AND WELFARE  
PROGRAMS. MOVEMENT ALSO VITAL, SINCE NI POLITICAL VACUUM  
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CONTINUES. UK MIGHT WELL WISH TO WITHDRAW BUT CANNOT;  
CONVERSELY, ANY ATTEMPT AT MILITARY SOLUTION WOULD RESULT  
IN CIVIL WAR. WILLIAMS BELIEVES REV. IAN PAISLEY CHIEF  
INFLUENCE BEHIND THREATENED NI GENERAL STRIKE (REF B),  
BUT SAYS NI SECRETARY MASON IS "STANDING UP" TO THREAT.  
SHE ASSERTED PAISLEY IS LOSING HIS GRIP, AND BELIEVES  
STRIKE WILL FAIL IF, INDEED, IT TAKES PLACE. WILLIAMS

PRAISED IRISH GOVERNMENT FOR ITS "FIRM" POLICIES AGAINST  
TERRORISM AND PROVISIONAL IRA IN PARTICULAR.

3. VINE SAID WE FOLLOW MOVEMENT'S ACTIVITIES WITH INTEREST  
AND WERE GLAD ITS LEADERS HAD MET IN LONDON WITH  
AMBASSADOR ARMSTRONG. HE OUTLINED USG POLICY OF NON-  
INVOLVEMENT ON NI ISSUE, COUPLED WITH CONTINUING EFFORTS  
TO COMBAT PRIVATE ILLEGAL US INVOLVEMENT. HE NOTED CONSIDER  
ABLE PROGRESS MADE IN RECENT YEARS IN COMBATING SUCH  
ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. VINE ADDED THAT USG POSITION AND  
VIEWS ON NI QUESTION UNCHANGED, AND ARE CLEARLY SET FORTH  
IN VANCE-FITZGERALD STATEMENT ISSUED MARCH 18 FOLLOWING  
IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT  
AND THE SECRETARY. ANY UNCERTAINTY ABOUT USG ATTITUDE,  
DUE TO DISTORTED CLAIMS OF INFLUENCE BY AN IRISH-AMERICAN  
PRESSURE GROUP, HAD DEFINITELY BEEN LAID TO REST. ST.  
PATRICK'S DAY APPEAL BY SENS. KENNEDY AND MOYNIHAN,  
SPEAKER O'NEILL AND GOV. CAREY ALSO HAD POWERFUL AND  
BENEFICIAL IMPACT ON ISSUE.

4. WILLIAMS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR VINE'S EXPOSITION  
OF USG POLICY. SHE ALSO PRAISED ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
APPEAL AND GOV. CAREY'S APRIL 22 SPEECH IN DUBLIN.  
MCDONALD SAID APPEAL HAD PARTICULARLY GOOD EFFECT ON NI  
PROTESTANTS, SINCE MANY HAD NEGATIVE STEREOTYPED VIEW  
OF IRISH-AMERICAN POLITICAL LEADERS.  
CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 BELFAST 118, 77 BELFAST 141  
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**Subject:** VISIT BY NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE MOVEMENT LEADERS  
**TAGS:** PINT, UK, EI, (WILLIAM, BETTY), (MACDONALD, NANCY)  
**To:** DUBLIN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/09da309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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